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European ePractice Newsletter N. 333 - 06 July 2010

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RIPRE - Register of Power Generation Plants in the Special Regime

The Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade (MITyC) is the Spanish department responsible for proposals and execution in terms of industrial development and innovation, commercial policies, small and medium enterprises, power generation, commercialization and distribution, mining, media, information society and trade.

Regarding this case, the Ministry is devoted to define, establish and make companies in the power sector to respect the rules of the game. In the case of RIPRE, we are talking about special rules, regarding only to power generation in the Special Regime.

The Special Regime covers different types of electricity production ways, but with an important feature in common: the raw material used is renewable or waste material and/or the manner of producing energy looks for efficiency, effectiveness and low pollution. This means we are talking about bio-mass, cogeneration, urban and other waste materials, solar electricity and so on.

The Special Regime in Spain is born on 2005 thanks to Renewable Energy Plan 2005-2010. That initiative was really a very important milestone on Spanish Renewable initiatives because it defined several objectives and goals that should be achieved for the next years in order to reach an appropriate level in this field.

We cannot forget also that this initiative wasn't born for the first time in Spain. It was born actually in the arms of European Union, which gave all the countries in the Union at the end of 2001 some policies and recommendations in the White Paper "Energy for the future: renewable sources of energy" and the Directive 2001/77/CE of the European Parliament and of the Council on the promotion of electricity produced from renewable energy sources in the internal electricity market.

Even if we think backward, all this movement was promoted at the beginning by a so many times mentioned treatment, we are talking about the Kyoto Protocol. Which give the European Union and many other countries some advices about the use of renewable sources in order to reduce pollution, energy consumption, sustainability...

However, the result of these important rules, at different levels, wasn't as expected. And, although many enterprises begun quickly acting in the renewable market, more regulations were needed in terms of technical, economical and political aspects in Spain.

This way, Spanish legislators decided it would be necessary for power generators in the Special Regime to give some information in order to register and control their behavior in the sector, and also to be authorized to play the game.

This information, according to the Royal Decree 661/2007 from 25th of May would be sent by plants to regional governments and they should also send it to MITyC periodically in order to create a central Registry of Power Generation Plants in the Special Regime, which stored all the information of the Special Regime in Spain. That way RIPRE was born.

RURAL INCLUSION

The Rural Inclusion project focuses on the offer of e-government services to regional enterprises in the scope of reducing/simplifying interaction with public organizations. It is financed by the European Commission Information and Communication Technologies Policy Support Programme (ICT PSP).

ARIES - AuthoRization for TransmISSION Electrical InStallation

The Spanish electricity sector has undergone profound changes since 1998. Until then, the sector's activity was concentrated in enterprises characterized by an important vertical structure, and exercising monopoly in the different Spanish regions.

Following the Electricity Sector Law 1955/2000, establishing the separation of regulated activities (transmission and distribution) and unregulated activities (production and marketing), electric utilities agencies must separate those activities in accounting and legal. It should be noted that although non-regulated activities are carried out in conditions of free competition, they are subject to administrative approval.

The Royal Decree 1955/2000 of December 1st, was developed under the policy for regulating the activities of transport, distribution, marketing, supply and licensing procedures in electricity facilities. In this Royal Decree, picking up the basics of the relevant Act, it is stated that the planning of the transport network, which is binding for other individuals acting within the electrical system, will be undertaken by the Government proposal of the Ministry of Economy (now the Ministry of Industry, Tourism and the participation of the autonomous regions).

Editor's Choice of the week: [Intelligent Warning System](#)

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SK/US: Experts held videoconference devoted to eHealth - 6 July 2010

On 3 June 2010 a videoconference took place between staff of the [Slovakian National Health Information Centre \(NHIC\)](#) and experts from one of the most prestigious hospitals in the United States - the [Mayo Clinic](#).

They discussed personal genomics and Slovakia's plan for the implementation of the second 'eHealth wave'. The American specialists presented the possibility of a genomic data warehouse - the Biologically Oriented Architecture Repository (BORA) - and the future uses of clinical genomics.

The reason behind the creation of the BORA project lies with the need for researchers and practitioners to obtain further clinical knowledge based on genomic data. BORA will enable the collection, storage and processing of large sets of genomic data from different sources. Moreover, the selection and analysis of this data using the interface to the various analytic tools creates an opportunity for its integration with the clinical data of the patients according to their genomic profiles.

The videoconference was furthermore an occasion to use the new videoconferencing technology developed by the NHIC to cooperate with other centres worldwide on the implementation of ehealth. NHIC acts as the national guardian and operator of ehealth.

Further information:

- [Original press release - Ministry of Health \(in Slovakian\)](#)
 - [National Health Information Centre](#)
-

NL: Online tool improves asthma self-management - 6 July 2010

A [study](#) reveals that an Internet-based self-management tool developed at the [Leiden University Medical Centre](#) has significantly improved asthmatics' ability to reduce their symptoms.

Researchers tested the system in 200 adults - aged between 18 and 50 years old - with asthma, and observed significant results in those whose asthma was either partly controlled or uncontrolled at the beginning of the trial.

Participants were trained to measure their own lung function and input the results, either by a web application or by text message. The website then suggested personalised advice on how to adjust treatment and presented a graphical representation of how they were progressing.

Patients adhered to the system well, with around an 80 % participation rate in the first three months, decreasing to 60 % by the end of the trial. This reflects the reduced need for monitoring, once the control of the disease has been achieved.

Victor van der Meer, a researcher who worked with a team from the Leiden University Medical Centre said: "The improvements in asthma control scores for patients with partly or uncontrolled asthma at baseline suggest a significant reduction of current asthma symptoms. Future asthma treatment strategies should incorporate continuous self-monitoring, as demonstrated here."

Moreover, he added: "This asthma action plan is one of few that not only specifies action points to increase treatment but also to decrease it, which provides the possibility to tailor medication to individual needs. All control level groups showed a similar pattern of pharmacological therapy over time: an increase in inhaled corticosteroids in the first three months, followed by a decrease in the next nine months."

Further information:

- [Original news article - British Journal of Healthcare Computing and Information Management](#)
 - [Leiden University Medical Centre](#)
 - [Respiratory Research - Weekly self-monitoring and treatment adjustment benefit patients with partly controlled and uncontrolled asthma: an analysis of the SMASHING study](#)
-

MK: Electronic Land Registry system operational for Skopje territory - 6 July 2010

'E-Cadastre', the electronic Land Registry system of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, officially started operating on 29 May 2010. It aims to provide citizens with faster and more efficient services on land registration matters.

E-Cadastre is currently available for the territory of the city of Skopje, but its services are expected to be expanded to more cities across the country in the near future.

The Minister for Information Society, Mr. Ivo Ivanovski believes that with the implementation of eCadastre greater transparency and efficiency will be achieved, the accountability of the state institutions will be enhanced, while citizens will save time with the use of the electronic services.

Likewise, the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mr. Vladimir Pesevski pointed out that the introduction of eCadastre will significantly increase the reliability of data and will provide more efficient services to citizens.

At the official presentation of the system, Mr. Pesevski further declared; "The reliability of the data will be significantly improved as the users will have real-time access to data. (...) This project plays a key role in creating an efficient business environment, particularly in the area of real estate and in the construction sector in general." He also added that after Slovenia, his country became the second one in the region to put the system into operation.

The cost of the project reached approximately €320 000, with funds provided by the budget of the Agency for Real Estate Cadastre. The system was developed by a private company in almost two years using sophisticated web technology.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Ministry of Information Society of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia \(in Macedonian\)](#)
- [Related Article - Agency for Real Estate Cadastre\(in Macedonian\)](#)
- [eCadastre services](#)

LT: Three new public eServices launched - 5 July 2010

On 1 July 2010 three new electronic services were introduced by the Police Department of the Lithuanian Ministry of Interior and the State Enterprise Regitra respectively. These services are: electronic notification of committed crimes, driver's license exchange service and registration of new vehicles.

The Police Department has enabled citizens to notify the officials of violations of law - illegal alcohol production and trafficking, drug distribution or acts of hooliganism, public disorder and other offenses - which are subject to administrative or criminal liability. Reports are made through the <https://ep.policija.lt> website; they may be submitted anonymously or with an electronic signature, saving citizens a trip to the police station. The service is available and operational 24 hours per day and the services is expected to receive up to 20 messages daily.

This service is launched as part of the EU funded project 'ePolice in Lithuania', as one the 36 services that are to be implemented electronically. The police authorities deem that by the end of 2011 they will be equipped with a tool capable of providing these services.

Moreover, State enterprise Regitra has launched a portal for drivers willing to change their driver's license. This service is targeted only at young drivers with a provisional two-year driver's license. In order to change it into a regular ten-year licence, drivers will no longer have to visit the Regitra department; they will just need to fill in an application form online. After processing, the new driver's license will be mailed to them by post. The regular ten-year driver's licence exchange service is not yet electronic, as there are issues with photographs, examples of driver signatures and data from medical institutions on the driver's state of health that are still being solved.

Another newly launched Regitra service is the registration of vehicles online. Car dealers will be able to register new cars through the Regitra website. Regitra also provides other electronic services such as vehicle and driver license

search, registration for the driving test and information on manufacturing a driver license process. Additional eServices will continue being developed.

"Demand for electronic services is constantly increasing. This may be related to the fact that there are currently about 380 thousand identity cards issued, which hold electronic signatures, allowing not only to identify a person, but also quickly and securely upload online a lot of data or documents. Therefore, we feel the obligation to provide new and useful services to people. The launching of the electronic services of driver license exchange, vehicle registration and notification to police will not only facilitate the procedures but will increase the quality and safety of service", said Minister of the Interior Raimundas Palaitis.

Further Information:

- [Original news article - Ministry of the Interior \(in Lithuanian\)](#)
- [Crime reporting service - Police Department \(in Lithuanian\)](#)
- [State Enterprise Registra](#)

EU: ÆGIS project's online user forum is now open to the general public - 5 July 2010

The ÆGIS ('Open Accessibility Everywhere: Groundwork, Infrastructure, Standards') project has announced the availability to the general public of the [project's online user forum](#) where anyone interested to comment on various topics can do so in various categories.

The various categories people can comment on are:

- Developers - Developers involved in software development for desktop, mobile, Internet and rich Internet applications can comment here on accessibility aspects related to assistive technologies.
- End-users - Web applications: What is your view on the accessibility of Internet applications and the Internet overall?
- End-users - Mobile applications: What are your thoughts on the accessibility of mobile applications?
- End-users - Screen Readers: What are your experiences with screen readers?
- End-users - Assistive Technologies: End-users can comment here on their experiences and opinions regarding assistive technologies in general.
- End-users - Desktop applications: This is the area where end-users can comment on their experiences and opinions regarding assistive technologies in the area of desktop applications.

Interested parties only need to register, after which they can share their expertise/experience with others.

The ÆGIS project seeks to determine whether third generation access techniques will provide a more accessible, more exploitable and deeply embeddable approach in mainstream ICT (desktop, rich Internet and mobile applications).

This approach is developed and explored with the Open Accessibility Framework (OAF) through which aspects of the design, development and deployment of accessible mainstream ICT are addressed. The OAF provides embedded and built-in accessibility solutions, as well as toolkits for developers, for 'engraving' accessibility in existing and emerging mass-market ICT-based products, thus making accessibility open, plug and play, personalised and configurable, realistic and applicable in various contexts; ÆGIS is placing users and their needs at the centre of all ICT developments. Based on a holistic User-Centered Design (UCD), ÆGIS identifies user needs and interaction models for several user groups (users with visual, hearing, motion, speech and cognitive impairments as well as application developers) and develops open source-based generalised accessibility support into mainstream ICT devices/applications:

- desktop;
- rich web applications;
- Java-based mobile devices.

All developments will be iteratively tested with a significant number of end-users, developers and experts in three phases and four pilot sites Europe wide (in Belgium, Spain, Sweden and the UK).

The project includes strong industrial and end-user participation (the participating industries are among the market leaders in the corresponding mainstream ICT markets). The project results' uptake is promoted by strong standardisation activities, as well as the fact that much of the technology results will be either new open source applications or will be built into existing and already widely adopted open source ICT.

Further Information:

- [ÆGIS project](#)
- [User forum access - ÆGIS](#)

CZ: Investing in eProcurement and Digital Library projects - 5 July 2010

The Czech Ministry of Interior announced on 25 May 2010 that it invested over CZK 3 billion (approx. €118 million) from the European Union's Structural Funds, namely the [Integrated Operational Programme](#), in the computerisation of public procurement and in the creation of digital national libraries.

The national eProcurement infrastructure will be established over the next three years. It is expected that the integrated system will not only allow purchasers and vendors to save money, it will also increase the transparency of the procurement process, in particular the evaluation phase.

The authority which is responsible for the eProcurement project is the Ministry of Regional Development. Martin Plachý, first Deputy Minister for Regional Development explained that the aim is to save public funds and ensure greater control over the procurement process.

In addition, almost CZK 255 million from the Integrated Operational Programme will be mobilised for the set up of digital libraries. Ultimately, it will be possible to access the collections of the National Library and the Moravian Library via web applications.

Monographs, periodicals and other documents published in the Czech Republic, as well as foreign publications related to the country will be digitised gradually and connected to the Public Administration Portal ([Portal.gov.cz](#)), which will improve and simplify contacts with the public authorities.

"In May [2010] in the frame of the Integrated Operational Programme we managed to approve projects worth more than CZK €3 million and we crossed the magic threshold of a CZK 10 billion [approx. €395 million] volume of approved projects. Thanks to these resources, the Czech public administration will be more efficient." said Jan Havránek, head of the Structural Funds Department, Ministry of the Interior.

Further information:

- [Original press release - Ministry of the Interior \(in Czech\)](#)
- [About the Integrated Operational Programme - Czech Republic](#)
- [Department of Structural Funds - Ministry of the Interior \(in Czech\)](#)
- [Ministry of Regional Development](#)
- [Public Administration portal](#)

DE: GIS for the Integrated Rural Development of the North Rhine-Westphalia - 5 July 2010

The Ministry of the Environment and Conservation, Agriculture and Consumer Protection of the German State of North Rhine-Westphalia, launched the [Geoinformation System for Integrated Rural Development](#) portal (Geoinformationssystem für die integrierte ländliche Entwicklung - GISILE, in German) at the beginning of June 2010.

Commenting on the launch of GISILE, the Minister, Eckhard Uhlenberg said that the portal "...will make an important contribution to eGovernment in the 'Rural Development' and 'Land Use' domains. The new information system facilitates the communication between the authorities on the one hand and citizens and businesses on the other."

GISILE offers at any time, user-friendly and updated spatial data for the main tasks pertaining to the integrated rural development in North Rhine-Westphalia, which include:

- The rural development - with information on the LEADER regions, the integrated rural development and the village development plans; and,
- The land division - with information on the procedures under the Land Consolidation Act, the Division of Common Land Act and the Community Forest Act.

The GISILE portal provides access to aerial photographs, maps and data and replies to questions related to the following issues: Where has the land order procedure taken place already? What are the objectives to be achieved with the land consolidation? Does a community belong to a LEADER region or to a region with an integrated rural development? Who is the contact person for the development policy? How can users contribute with their own ideas and proposals to the rural development process?

Further information:

- [Official Press Release - Ministry of the Environment and Conservation, Agriculture and Consumer Protection of the German State of North Rhine-Westphalia \(in German\)](#)
- [Geoinformation System for Integrated Rural Development \(in German\)](#)

SE: National ehealth infrastructure ready for further development - 2 July 2010

The collaboratively developed Swedish eHealth infrastructure services are functioning in a stable manner and are well used at county level. A further development phase starts in collaboration with municipalities in order to simplify the use of the services and expand their application scope.

These infrastructure services are intended to ensure that the handling of data and the transfer of information between health care providers take place in a consistent and secure manner. They include: the [HSA catalogue service](#) - a national address directory of healthcare services providers linking all regional level eCatalogues; [SITHS](#) - the secure IT authentication solutions for health care professionals; the secure communication network SJUNET; and the video-and tele-meeting service.

"In general, for the entire infrastructure, the ambition is to have services that can really be trusted. They must offer high availability and be stable and safe. Many solutions have been around for a long time and they have been developed after county councils requirements." said Peter Alvinsson, Director of the infrastructure programme steering group at the Centre for eHealth in Sweden ([CeHis](#)). "Now that municipalities and private healthcare providers join and interaction increases, there might be new demands as to infrastructure. We are therefore pursuing further development together with the municipalities and the private providers, so that we can create national services that have wide application." he added.

The communication network SJUNET is currently the most stable of these services, with a very high availability. It has been prepared to move to the new Internet Protocol version IPv6. As for the HSA catalogue service, it has been available in all Swedish counties and in over 80 municipalities; the next step is to refine even more the quality of the information and to continue improving user comfort. The management interface has been made simpler and part of the service is accessible through the Internet.

"As regards SITHS - which is strongly linked to HSA - (...) the roll-out is well under way in county councils. We also feel a lot of pressure from local authorities. During this year [2010] and the next one [2011] we will work towards the development of SITHS in a way to enable its use in conjunction with other security solutions." Mr. Alvinsson said.

The infrastructure programme team at CeHis is moreover working on simplifying, streamlining and improving access to SJUNET, HSA and SITHS, with the support function of National Customer Service (NAK). Via the Internet it should be possible for users to enter the service, specify who they are and where they work, and based on the services they need, fill in the relevant agreements. Peter Alvinsson explained: "Obtaining support and help when completing forms becomes a big boost, in particular for new users, because the task is both extensive and

complicated today. Eventually, one should be also able to sign agreements directly on the Internet and thus completely do away with paperwork."

As for the video and tele-meeting service, it is also stable. Focus will be placed on increasing its use. "Its commercial potential is enormous, not only for administrative meetings, but also for (...) distance education, homecare and so on." Mr. Alvinsson indicated.

In addition, there is a need to improve communications between the healthcare providers and other services. The project 'Channel Insurance-Healthcare' (IFV) aims to digitise the entire sick-leave procedure. A pilot is being carried out in the city of Uppsala where the illness certificates can be sent to the social insurance agency by electronic means. According to Peter Alvinsson, IFV is going exactly as planned. The next stage is for county councils to define together with system vendors their specifications for sending certificate electronically and managing electronic messaging. The goal is for county councils to send 90 % of electronic certificates in October 2011.

Further information:

- [Original press release - Centre for eHealth in Sweden \(in Swedish\)](#)
- [About the HSA catalogue service \(in Swedish\)](#)
- [SITHS \(in Swedish\)](#)

ES: Telehealth home monitoring system helps heart failure patients - 2 July 2010

The CAtalan Remote Management Evaluation (CARME) study has shown that patients with heart failure who used an interactive telehealth system with motivational support tools at home spent 73 % fewer days in hospital. The findings of the study were presented during the 'Heart Failure Congress 2010' held in Berlin on 29 May - 01 June 2010.

The results of the CARME study, which was managed by the Spanish [Hospital Germans Trias i Pujol](#) Heart Failure Clinic over a 12 month period, are the first to demonstrate how the impact of a telehealth system combining patient monitoring and motivational educational support tools can benefit patients who suffer from chronic diseases.

The study randomly assigned 92 patients to two groups; the patients of the first group received care plan driven educational videos, motivational messages and questionnaires, whereas the second group received the same information but also monitored their blood pressure, weight and pulse.

A telehealth system was used to connect patients with their providers via their television and broadband connection. The study then compared the clinical outcomes 12 months prior to enrolment with the results obtained during the study. It finally revealed:

- a 68% decrease in heart failure related to hospitalisation;
- a 73% reduction of days spent in hospital, i.e. from 646 to 168 days;
- a significant improvement in patients perception of quality of life;
- more than half of the patients (56%) said that their quality of life was medium or low, which decreased to 22% by the end;
- more than three quarters of patients said that they wanted to keep the telehealth system in addition to their regular care.

Dr Josep Lupon, head of the heart failure unit and main researcher of the study, said: "The concept of providing educational support to heart failure patients via their television has significantly contributed to empowering them."

"Equally important, the CARME study has shown that disseminating patient and disease specific information via the TV (...), helps family members to gain a better understanding of how to effectively support their loved ones in coping with their disease. This appears to have a very strong impact on outcomes."

Further information:

- [Original news article - eHealth Europe](#)
- [Heart Failure Congress 2010](#)

UK: Scotland's online source of knowledge for healthcare - 2 July 2010

On 7 June 2010, the new online database named the '[Knowledge Network](#)' was launched during the opening address at the [NHS Scotland event](#) held in Edinburgh. The main purpose of the platform is to provide NHS staff with online information on areas such as patient care, clinical practice and research.

Managed by the NHS Education for Scotland, the online resource includes a search engine that gives instant access to 11 million learning and information resources from over 100 providers as well as a personal space for employees to gather information.

The Scottish Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing, Nicola Sturgeon, during her speech also reflected on recent achievements including the world renowned patient safety programme, reducing waiting times and the introduction of the [Quality Strategy](#).

More specifically, Ms. Sturgeon said: "We know that people want speedy treatment and quick access to care and we have made great improvements in these areas. But people want more than that. They want a health service that is compassionate; they want to see a real partnership between clinicians, patients and others; they want services to be provided in a clean and safe care environment; they want hospital food to be good; they want continuity of care and of course they want confidence in the effectiveness of any treatment."

She added: "Achieving all this, for every person, every time is what our Quality Strategy for NHS Scotland is all about. We know that a skilled, motivated and committed workforce, with access to the right knowledge, tools and materials is a key component to delivering the highest quality healthcare for the people of Scotland. That is why today's announcement on the Knowledge Network is to be welcomed, not only will it save staff time, it will allow them to access a wealth of information which for the first time will be available online in the same place."

The NHS Scotland Event provides the opportunity for those who work in, and with, the NHS in Scotland to discuss, share and learn more about tools, techniques and good practice happening across the country that supports the delivery of continuous quality improvement in Scotland.

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Further information:

- [Official Press Release - Scottish Government](#)
- [Knowledge Network](#)

EU: Call for tenders - Study on enhancing procurement of ICT solutions for healthcare - 1 July 2010

The European Commission is calling for tenders for the production of a "Study on enhancing procurement of ICT solutions for healthcare". The call will close on 30 July 2010.

The study aims to develop guidelines for healthcare decision makers and procurers on how to best conduct planning processes when strategic considerations point to the adoption of eHealth solutions on the one hand, and on how to move from the planning phase to the procurement specifications and process on the other hand.

The study shall help in achieving the overall objective of contributing to more efficient and effective healthcare through the adoption of ICT solutions in the service delivery process. In particular, it shall contribute to the [Lead Market Initiative for eHealth](#) as well as to achieving the objectives set out in the [European Commission's Communication on Telemedicine](#) and the [European eHealth action plan](#).

The specific objectives of the study are:

1. To identify and analyse the challenges hindering the procurement of eHealth solutions.
2. To identify and analyse possible approaches or methodologies for tackling the aforementioned challenges.
3. Based on the analyses mentioned above, to draw a set of guidelines for decision makers and procurers within public healthcare authorities and care delivery organisations on how to achieve a given set of clearly defined strategic goals by possibly embedding ICT-based solutions into healthcare delivery, in such a way to minimise the risks of failure and gaining over time the target benefits from the investments made.

It is worth noting that the study shall analyse 10 eHealth procurement initiatives carried out in the 27 Member States of the European Union, as well as Norway, Iceland or Switzerland. The selected procurement initiatives shall cover as much as possible national health systems, as well as different levels of decision making in the field of eHealth procurement and deployment (local, regional, and national). The selected initiatives shall also have significant size in terms of the number of patients covered and that of health professionals involved.

Last but not least, considering the wide variety of eHealth applications and services and the impossibility to conduct an in-depth analysis of all the eHealth application areas, the study shall focus on the following two areas:

- Implementation of region-wide electronic health record (EHR) systems;
- Incorporation of telemonitoring services in the context of specific chronic disease management programmes run at regional level or in wide local areas.

Further information:

- [More information on the call for tenders](#)
- [Contact for this call - European Commission](#)
- [Lead Market Initiative for eHealth](#)
- [Related ePractice publication - EU: Communication on telemedicine for the benefit of patients, healthcare and society](#)
- [European eHealth action plan](#)

ES: Hospital in Seville uses electronic alert system for cases diagnosed as serious - 1 July 2010

The Virgin Macarena Hospital in Seville has been implementing through the 'Heraldo Project' a system to alert specialists by SMS or email on their patient's medical test results in case these appear to be serious.

The aim is hence for the specialist who ordered the tests to receive more quickly and securely this information which requires priority attention because the results are unexpectedly abnormal or compatible with a serious pathology. The information is sent by the various diagnosis units of the hospital (laboratories, radiology, pathological anatomy, etc).

In practice the functioning of the alert system varies according to the diagnosis unit. For instance in the pathological anatomy department, each time the pathologist validates a code which matches any of the codes included in a pre-defined table of critical pathologies, an SMS along with two emails are sent to the phone number and email address provided beforehand by the specialist who ordered the test. Differently, in the radio diagnosis, biochemistry, haematology, nuclear medicine and anaesthesiology departments - all the other hospital departments included in the project to date - the system is 'manual'; it is on the heads of these departments to decide on whether to send an alert.

The specialist receives the message personally, directly and instantaneously. In the alert text the name of the emitting diagnosis unit appears together with the health record number of the patient. In this way it becomes easier for the specialist to identify the origin of the message. The use of the health record number preserves the confidentiality of the information, while the absence of clinical data makes it possible to send the messages without encryption, nor other security measures.

It is worth noting that the full report is conveyed simultaneously to the SMS and emails, through traditional channels (electronic or paper). The redundancy of the communication process considerably improves the security of the procedure. Although participation in this scheme is optional for specialists, their acceptance shows that the number of participants will grow gradually. At the moment the system is being expanded to the primary care unit of the hospital.

According to the news article issued by Health Department of the Autonomous Government of Andalusia, with the Heraldo Project the Macarena Hospital will increase its response capacity in forwarding test results, ensuring faster treatment for patients under conditions of maximum security and data confidentiality, with the appropriate means to prioritise serious pathologies.

Further information:

- [Original news article - Health Portal of the Autonomous Government of Andalusia \(in Spanish\)](#)
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FI: Electronic prescription debuts - 1 July 2010

On 20 May 2010, the first electronic prescription was written and dispensed in Finland in the city of Turku (south-west Finland).

According to the Finnish Minister of Social Affairs and Health, Liisa Hyssälä, "The introduction of electronic prescriptions has turned out to be a long process, as things had to be carefully examined. Furthermore, we first had to run a pilot period, but now it has been demonstrated that the electronic prescription system works. Both the writing and delivery of electronic prescriptions went well."

For the time being, the electronic prescriptions can solely be written at the 'Church Road Health Centre' while patients can have their prescription medication dispensed at the Nummenmäen pharmacy only. Over the course of 2010, the use of the electronic prescription system will expand to other pharmacies and health centres around Turku. Eventually, the ePrescribing system will be used across the country with its implementation taking place gradually. Kotka will be the next city in southern Finland to follow.

It has been learned from the earlier trials of the system that joint models of operation and a flexible use are necessary to ensure that the users will adopt the system.

"Turku tested business models together with health professionals, pharmacists and patients. It is important to see how the electronic prescription works in practice and the way in which patients should be informed about the benefits of its use. The experiences of Turku will be taken into account, when the introduction of electronic prescriptions will be further expanded," added the Minister.

According to the Act on Electronic Prescriptions (61/2007) which entered into force in 2007, [Kela](#), the independent social security institution, is in charge of maintaining the centralised system (Prescription Centre), which contains the prescriptions written out by doctors as well as the dispensing data of pharmacies. The introduction of the electronic prescription system throughout the country is coordinated by the project office KunTo of the [Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities](#).

Further information:

- [Official Press Release - Ministry of Social Affairs and Health \(in Finnish\)](#)
-

UK: Government publishes online data on public spending - 1 July 2010

On 4 June 2010, as part of the transparency initiative of the United Kingdom's Prime Minister, for the first time the Ministry of Economics and Finance (HM Treasury) published data on public expenditure from the 'Combined Online Information System' (COINS), for the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 fiscal years. The data has been made available through [data.gov.uk](#).

Although COINS data is complex and the information released so far is in a raw form that requires technical expertise to process, this public expenditure data initiative is the most detailed one ever released. Building on this announcement, the Treasury will work over the coming months to ensure that COINS data published in future is in a simpler and more accessible format. Moreover, the Government is committed to being more transparent and open in publishing information about the money it spends, where it spends it, and the results it achieves.

Having access to this information for the first time, institutions and experts will be able to process the data as they wish, and present it in a way that is more accessible to the general public. This action constitutes an important step toward giving the public a greater understanding of where their taxes are spent and how their Government will deliver on its promise to be more open and transparent.

Danny Alexander, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, stated: "This data is complex, but this is major step forward and shows we are delivering on our promise to make this Government more open and transparent while ensuring we

deliver value for money for the taxpayer. I hope people will take the opportunity to scrutinise carefully how their money is being spent - as I am doing every day in preparation for the Spending Review. We will not stop here - we plan to release more data in the coming months that will be easier for the general public to understand."

A more detailed overview of COINS and instructions for using the data can be found on the HM Treasury website at: <http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/coins>.

Background information:

COINS is used by the Treasury to collect financial data from across the public sector to support fiscal management, the production of Supply Estimates for Parliament, the production of public expenditure statistics, the preparation of Whole of Government Accounts (WGA) and to meet data requirements of the Office for National Statistics.

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Further information:

- [Original Press Release - HM Treasury](#)
- data.gov.uk
- [HM Treasury - COINS](#)

CH: Members of Steering Committee for eGovernment receive SuisseID - 30 June 2010

At the session of Switzerland's eGovernment Steering Committee on 25 May 2010, each Committee member received a personal SuisseID, the first secure electronic proof of identity at national level. Likewise, the Committee took note of the successful implementation of the Swiss eGovernment programme and appointed the leading partners of last two priority projects initiated.

A major achievement for Swiss eGovernment is the official launch of SuisseID (3 May 2010); it allows its personal holder to sign documents by electronic means and to securely authenticate to online services. The tool is of high importance for the implementation of the priority projects listed in the national eGovernment strategy.

Furthermore, SuisseID creates synergies between eGovernment and eCommerce; a number of eCommerce applications have been/are being adapted to support SuisseID. In this regard, it is worth noting that around 50 online services - public and private - are making or will make use in the next month of the eID for digital signature or secure eAuthentication, according to a recent [news article](#) of the State Secretariat of Economy.

In total, the national eGovernment Strategy comprises 45 priority projects, six of which are entirely or partly under production phase:

- Handling of cases between the Swiss Compensation Office and its members;
- Transmission of data to statistics offices;
- Management of projects for the implementation of eGovernment;
- Single personal identifier;
- Harmonisation of registries;
- Data exchange service among all levels of government across the Confederation.

The Committee awarded the leadership of the last two priority eGovernment projects - namely 'Work permits requests' and 'eBilling and ePayment' - to the 'Association des offices suisses de travail' (the Association of Swiss employment offices - AOST) and the Federal Finance Administration (FFA), respectively.

To date, out of the CHF 4 million (approx. €3.5 million) allocated by the Swiss Parliament during the fall of 2009, CHF 3.05 million (approx. €2.2 million) have been granted to several priority eGovernment projects to accelerate their implementation and to remove existing obstacles.

Background information:

To advance eGovernment in Switzerland, the Confederation, the cantons, and the municipalities have defined their common goals in the [eGovernment Strategy Switzerland](#). The strategy aims to enable both businesses and the population to carry out important transactions with the authorities electronically. The authorities in turn are called

upon to modernise their business processes and to communicate electronically with each other. The [Catalogue of Prioritised Projects](#) contains the projects to be coordinated and implemented as part of the eGovernment Strategy and is an important implementation *instrument*.

Further information:

- [Original press release - Federal Department of Finance \(in French, German and Italian\)](#)
 - [SuisseID \(in French, German and Italian\)](#)
 - [eGovernment Switzerland Programme \(in English, French, German and Italian\)](#)
 - [Related news article - State Secretariat of Economy \(in French, German and Italian\)](#)
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New Factsheets

The 8th Edition of the eGovernment factsheet for Norway is now available online. We invite you to visit the [relevant section](#) for regular and/or ad hoc updates related to the factsheets.

Latest Publications

- [EU: Business Models for eHealth - Study Report](#) | 15 May 2010 | EU Institutions
-

EU: Business Models for eHealth - Study Report - 15 May 2010

Description (short summary):

This report presents the analysis of a study funded by the ICT for Health Unit to explore business models for the implementation of value-creating and sustainable eHealth systems in Europe. It also introduces a set of policy recommendations for the European Commission and other stakeholders, with the ultimate objectives being:

- the improvement of the overall quality and efficiency of provision of health services in general via eHealth services, taking into consideration the present and future socio-economic and financial challenges faced by national healthcare authorities in Europe;
- the consolidation of eHealth services as a mature market where European industry can play a leading role via the provision of innovative technological and organisational solutions.

Number of pages: 75

Related ePractice News Item:

[EU: Final report of EC-funded study on 'Business Models for eHealth' issued](#)

Upcoming Events

- [FR: Alps Bio Cluster Catalyst Event on 'Autonomy and Healthcare'](#) | 7 - 8 July 2010 | France
- [FR: 2nd Worldwide Innovative Networking in personalized cancer medicine](#) | 7 - 9 July 2010 | France
- [UK: 5th International carers conference](#) | 8 - 11 July 2010 | United Kingdom
- [UK: HUWY Workshop London](#) | 9 July 2010 | United Kingdom
- [DE: 4th International Workshop on Biomedical Image Registration](#) | 11 - 13 July 2010 | Germany
- [AT: Workshop on 'Accessibility Simulation Technologies and Standards Issues'](#) | 13 July 2010 | Austria
- [UK: e-Access' 10 Conference and Exhibition](#) | 13 July 2010 | United Kingdom
- [CA: 18th Annual Summer Diagnostic Imaging Update](#) | 13 - 16 July 2010 | North America

- [UK: Building Perfect Council Websites 2010](#) | 14 July 2010 | United Kingdom
- [UK: Digital literacy professional development workshop in London](#) | 14 July 2010 | United Kingdom
- [AT: 12th Conference on Computers Helping People with Special Needs](#) | 14 - 16 July 2010 | Austria
- [EU: Online Forum - Transparency in EU standardization](#) | 15 July 2010 | Pan european
- [GR: Eighth International Conference on Information Communication Technologies in Health](#) | 15 - 17 July 2010 | Greece
- [GR: 1st Summer School on Biomedical and Health Informatics](#) | 19 - 24 July 2010 | Greece
- [UK: Seminar on early diagnosis and prevention - saving costs, saving lives](#) | 20 July 2010 | United Kingdom
- [AT: EVOTE 2010](#) | 21 - 24 July 2010 | Austria
- [DE: IADIS Conference on e-Democracy, Equity and Social Justice 2010](#) | 26 - 28 July 2010 | Germany
- [GR: ICE-B 2010](#) | 26 - 28 July 2010 | Greece
- [DE: IADIS e-Commerce 2010 Conference](#) | 28 - 30 July 2010 | Germany
- [DE: IADIS International Conference e-Health 2010](#) | 29 - 31 July 2010 | Germany
- [PE: AGSE 2010](#) | 3 - 6 August 2010 | Central and South America
- [ePractice workshop: "Procurement of eHealth solutions"](#) | 7 October 2010 | Belgium

FR: Alps Bio Cluster Catalyst Event on 'Autonomy and Healthcare' - 7 - 8 July 2010

Alps Bio Cluster Catalyst Event of the 'Autonomy and Healthcare' network - 'ICT and Care: toward personalized services'

The two-day event aims to gather industry, research, end-users organisations and the medico-social professionals in order to:

- foster cooperation between the industrial world and the medico-social sector because new technologies for autonomy & health imply, first of all, new paradigms in organisation (care cycle, lifestyle, ethic aspects...);
- enhance the involvement of the end-users in the production process of products and services;
- boost innovative project ideas gathering technologies and services;
- set up a consortium to build an integrated offer adapted to users' needs within the framework of European calls (for example, the Ambient Assisted Living call open until 30 July 2010).

At the plenary round tables and parallel workshops, participants will learn about the impact of the new technologies for autonomy and healthcare on: organisations (medico-social, hospitals...); uses (acceptability, end-users needs...); the economic system (business models, market...).

On the afternoon of the second day, a [brainstorming workshop](#) based on the [Living Lab methodology](#) - end-user driven innovation process, will take place. This methodology will be applied to the participants' projects or project ideas following a bottom-up approach. The purpose is to stimulate the design of innovative healthcare solutions adapted to the integrated care cycle. Working on European calls topics, the challenge will be to set up the 'good' project which can reach the market. Specific focus will be placed on the 3rd Ambient Assisted Living (AAL) call entitled 'ICT-based Solutions for Advancement of Older Persons' Independence and Participation in the 'Self-serve Society' - launched on 23 April 2010 and open until 30 July 2010.

The detailed event programme may be found [here](#).

Registration can be performed [online](#).

Alps Bio Cluster is a European project, co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund under the Alpine Space programme. It aims to unite research, industrial, and training resources in Biotech and Medtech sectors over an extended transalpine area. It is made up of two 2 thematic networks, namely: 'Autonomy and Healthcare' (WP5) and 'New diagnosis and therapies' (WP6).

Event email: coralie.riou@adebag.org

Event website: http://www.alpsbiocluster.eu/autonomy-and-healthcare/CatalystEventGrenoble_2010/CatalystEventGrenoble

Country: France

FR: 2nd Worldwide Innovative Networking in personalized cancer medicine - 7 - 9 July 2010

2nd Worldwide Innovative Networking in personalized cancer medicine (WIN)

The WIN symposium is an annual event presenting breakthrough scientific technologies and achievements in personalized cancer medicine, with a special focus on individualized treatment and early diagnosis of cancer.

The event brings together a broad international audience including experts in oncology such as physicians, scientists, cancer researchers, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, healthcare organisations and patient advocates from around the World to offer a strategic alliance and vision on personalised medicine in cancer.

The WIN symposium will be discussing the challenges of early diagnosis; optimum ways to select and deliver personalized treatment, and how to translate these concepts into the clinic. The event will contain oral presentations, poster sessions and an open interactive forum with the invited speakers and attendees.

Sessions will include advanced scientific concepts in personalized medicine and integrated medicine, breakthrough concepts and technological achievements, biomarker discovery and validation, standardization and harmonization needs in biobanking, clinical drug development. Also to be addressed will be the societal needs and challenges of personalized medicine and the need for greater international co-operation to accelerate translation of research discoveries from the bench to the bedside.

This year's symposium will offer an interactive forum to discuss new approaches, tools and challenges in cancer medicine. Registered attendees are invited to submit a question relating to unmet needs in individualized cancer care for discussion during this session.

The detailed event programme may be found [here](#).

Registration can be performed [online](#).

Event email: http://www.mfcongres.com/congress_contact.jsp?congress=53

Event website: http://www.mfcongres.com/congress_welcome.jsp?congress=53

Country: France

City/Location: Paris

Organiser: kdm communications & MF Congrès

UK: 5th International carers conference - 8 - 11 July 2010

5th international carers conference - 'New frontiers in caring: 2010 and beyond'

How care and caring in a changing and ageing world are managed is one of the world's greatest challenges, touching everyone's lives. This is a global issue, and it calls for a big debate and big solutions.

This conference will bring together the international community of researchers, practitioners and those with an interest in caring to debate this critical issue and relating ones and exchange expertise and experience. Mapping the policy framework from around the world, the conference will explore innovation and seek real solutions to the care crunch.

The conference will focus on four key themes identified through latest international debate. Of those, the theme 'Technology, Design and the Built Environment' will be dedicated to how modern healthcare and information, communication and assistive technologies are creating a changed context for the delivery of care. It will address the following questions:

- How can technology support the delivery of care?
- How can it support families and carers?
- What does inclusive design look like, and how can it promote independence?
- How to plan cities and settlements that embrace age and disability and support care and caring?

The conference programme will consist of keynote speaker plenary sessions, plenary panel sessions, concurrent workshop sessions and invited policy seminars.

Registration can be performed [online](#).

Event email: dino.dionissiou@neilstewartassociates.co.uk

Event website: <http://www.neilstewartassociates.com/sh259/?ref=FAST>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: Leeds

Organiser: Carers UK and the University of Leeds

UK: HUWY Workshop London - 9 July 2010

Hub Websites for Youth Participation (HUWY) Workshop London - Get involved in a better Internet

The HUWY UK team are holding the workshop 'Get involved in a better Internet' to encourage youth leaders and youth groups to get involved in the [HUWY \(Hub Websites for Youth Participation\) project](#). This workshop has been re-scheduled from June 2010.

The HUWY project aims to support young people's eParticipation in policies about the Internet and its governance, through a distributed discussion; in other words it aims to get politicians to listen to what young people have to say about the Internet. HUWY partners provide information, support and organise influential audiences for young people's suggestions. The Hub websites hold supporting information and structured space for results and feedback from policy-makers. Young people choose the topics and questions, host the discussions on their web pages and post the results on the Hubs.

HUWY wants to hear from those working with young people having discussions like:

- What happens to my stuff on FaceBook?
- You shouldn't be cut off for file-sharing.
- It's too easy to bully someone online.

The short session will cover the following aspects:

- What HUWY is
- How you can use it in your work
- What you'll need to do to participate

The draft workshop agenda includes:

- 11.00 Registration
- 11.30 Introductions
- 12.00 Why get involved
- 12.30 How the site works
- 13.00 Lunch
- 13.45 Getting involved
- 14.15 Questions and hands on help
- 15.00 End

HUWY is sponsored by the European Commission under the eParticipation Preparatory Action and has the following partners: Edinburgh Napier University, Queens University Belfast, Dog Digital and Ministry of Justice - United Kingdom, Tartu University and State Chancellory - Estonia, Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research and Jugendpresse Deutschland - Germany, Letterkenny Institute of Technology, Mr. Pat the Cope Gallagher MEP, Youth Work Ireland - Ireland.

Interested parties wishing to participate to this open and free event can register [here](#).

Event email: f.okane@qub.ac.uk

Event website: <http://www.huwy.eu/uk/news-blog/2010/06/14/huwy-workshop-london-9th-july/>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London
Organiser: Queens University Belfast for the HUWY project

DE: 4th International Workshop on Biomedical Image Registration - 11 - 13 July 2010

4th International Workshop on Biomedical Image Registration - WBIR 2010

The Workshop on Biomedical Image Registration aims to bring together leading researchers in the area of biomedical image registration to present and discuss recent developments in the field.

The format of the two-day workshop will include both oral and poster presentations and offers opportunities for discussion. The detailed event programme may be found [here](#).

Registration can be performed [online](#).

Event email: contact@wbir2010.org

Event website: <http://www.math.mu-luebeck.de/safir/wbir2010/index.php>

Country: Germany

City/Location: Lübeck

Organiser: SAFIR Research Group, Institute of Mathematics, University of Lübeck

AT: Workshop on 'Accessibility Simulation Technologies and Standards Issues' - 13 July 2010

ACCESSIBLE project workshop - 'Accessibility Simulation Technologies and Standards Issues'

The first [ACCESSIBLE project's](#) Workshop on 'Accessibility Simulation Technologies and Standards Issues' will take place in the frame of the [12th International Conference on Computers Helping People with Special Needs \(ICCHP\) 2010](#) in Vienna, in the context of the ICCHP pre-conference.

The ICCHP International Conference wants to highlight the progress of the issue of 'Interfacing the existing and emerging Human-Computer Interface', as well as achievements and plot a Research and Development-roadmap towards such challenges, which will ensure even higher product and service usability.

The triggering idea behind the ACCESSIBLE project is to contribute for better accessibility for all citizens, to increase the use of standards, and to develop an assessment simulation environment (including a suite of accessibility analysing tools as well as developer-aid tools) to assess efficiently, easily and rapidly the accessibility and viability of software applications for all user groups.

ACCESSIBLE will exploit the technologies behind the recent expansion of accessibility tools and standardisation methodologies, in order to provide an integrated simulation assessment environment for supporting the production of accessible software applications mobile or not.

This will enable large organisations, SMEs or individuals (developers, designers, etc.) to produce software products of superior accessibility and quality, accompanied by appropriate measures and proposals for best practice. The proposed system will be demonstrated in the four pilots of ACCESSIBLE for the assessment of:

- Mobile applications (including JavaFX Scripts)
- Web applications
- Web services (mainly focusing on infomobility services)
- Description languages (e.g. UML, SDL, etc.).

More information on the workshop and the programme will be made available soon at the [ACCESSIBLE project website](#).

Event email: hchalkia@certh.gr

Event website: <http://www.icchp.org/node/265#accessible>

Country: Austria

City/Location: Vienna
Organiser: Accessible project

UK: e-Access' 10 Conference and Exhibition - 13 July 2010

e-Access' 10 - Technology for all

This event is the sixth edition of the annual conference and exhibition on access to technology by people with disabilities.

It includes a programme of interactive sessions, workshops and case studies to help organisations of all sizes take their first steps towards or improve their track record on accessibility. Sessions cover the business, legal and ethical drivers for making computers, mobile phones and all digital technologies accessible to all. The detailed programme may be viewed [here](#).

The target audience consists of corporate and family businesses, council or government agencies, universities and think-tanks.

Registration can be performed [online](#).

Event email: elodie@headstar-events.com

Event website: <http://www.headstar-events.com/eaccess10/>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London

Organiser: Headstar's E-Access Bulletin and OneVoice for Accessible ICT Coalition

CA: 18th Annual Summer Diagnostic Imaging Update - 13 - 16 July 2010

18th Annual Summer Diagnostic Imaging Update

This course is designed to provide the tools for participants to keep current with the latest imaging technologies and integrate their new knowledge into clinical practice by presenting in-depth information on state-of-the-art techniques and promising new directions in diagnostic imaging and image-guided interventions. Focal items will include imaging the abdomen, central nervous system, thyroid and thoracic cavity.

This course is intended for practicing radiologists and radiologic nurses, physician assistants, technologists, scientists, residents, fellows and others who are interested in current techniques and applications for advanced diagnostic imaging.

The detailed course programme may be found [here](#).

Registration and check-in will begin at 7:30 a.m. on the first day of the event. Registration can also be performed [online](#).

Event email: radiologycme@med.stanford.edu

Event website: <http://radiologycme.stanford.edu/2010whistler/>

Country: North America

City/Location: Whistler, British Columbia, Canada

Organiser: Stanford Department of Radiology

UK: Building Perfect Council Websites 2010 - 14 July 2010

Building Perfect Council Websites 2010

With the continuation of tough economic times for the public sector, it is vital to ensure that council websites work well as efficient and effective providers of information and services to local citizens.

Building Perfect Council Websites '10, is the fifth annual event in this field. It brings together more than 300 participants, including local authority webmasters and web teams from all parts of the UK. Other participants include private sector partners; health service, government and other public sector web teams; communications specialists; and others with an interest in the development of efficient, citizen-centred public services online.

This event combines a headline conference with an interactive format of round-table discussion groups and pre-arranged one-to-one meetings for structured networking. The event focuses on both current best practice and predicts future trends, from open data to mobile services.

Overall, the programme covers all aspects of creating a successful site, from high-level strategic issues such as ensuring a focus on the citizen to detailed hands-on advice such as search engine tips; and web form usability. The final programme has been made available [here](#).

To maximise the sharing of best practice, all participants at this year's event will be able to create their own bespoke networking programme that integrates their chosen conference sessions, with discussion groups and pre-arranged meetings with other participants.

Registration can be performed [online](#); it requires the payment of a fee.

Event email: elodie@headstar-events.com

Event website: <http://www.headstar-events.com/council10/>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London

Organiser: eGovernment Bulletin and the Socitm Insight Programme

UK: Digital literacy professional development workshop in London - 14 July 2010

Futurelab workshop on digital literacy professional development in Bristol

As part of its work on Digital Participation, Futurelab will organise this second in a series of four regional professional development workshops for primary and secondary school teachers. The [first workshop](#) took place in Bristol on 1 July 2010.

Digital literacy is the ability to participate in wide-ranging practices of creating and communicating meaning with digital technologies.

At the workshop practitioners and Futurelab researchers will work together to:

- explore the concept of digital literacy as an emerging entitlement in an increasingly digital age;
- discuss some initial research findings around approaches to developing digital literacy across the curriculum;
- develop practical ideas for supporting students' digital literacy from within classroom subject teaching;
- consider the implications of these sorts of approaches for further teacher professional development.

Event email: clare.pirie@futurelab.org.uk

Event website: <http://www.futurelab.org.uk/events/listing/literacy-workshops>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London

Organiser: Futurelab

AT: 12th Conference on Computers Helping People with Special Needs - 14 - 16 July 2010

12th International Conference on Computers Helping People with Special Needs - (ICHP) 2010

CCHP focuses on all aspects related to Assistive Technologies (AT) and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) for people with disabilities. Changes in awareness and understanding of disability as well as social and legal frameworks, driven by disability rights and independent living movements led to what is known as eAccessibility, Universal Design or eInclusion. User involvement and user-centred design are the underlying general topic of ICCHP leading to an interdisciplinary discussion of all stakeholders in the value chain that allows social innovation in the Information Society.

Some of the topics to be discussed include but are not limited to:

- eAccessibility & Usability
- eAging and Gerontechnology
- Assessment and Profiling
- Ambient and Assisted Living (AAL)
- Assistive Technology
- Augmented and Alternative Communication (AAC)
- Design for All
- eGovernment
- eHealth - Medicine and Care
- eInclusion - Policies and Legislation
- eLearning - special and/or inclusive
- User-centred Design and User Involvement

Detailed information about the programme of the conference can be found [here](#).

Dr Paul Timmers, the Head of the Unit 'ICT for Inclusion' in the European Commission's Directorate-General Information Society & Media is among the [keynote speakers](#) of the conference; he will present a speech entitled: 'New perspectives for assistive technologies and e-accessibility'.

Registration is required for all attendees and it can be performed [online](#) with the payment of a fee. The 2009 edition of the event gathered over 600 attendees.

Event email: icchp@jku.at

Event website: <http://www.icchp.org>

Country: Austria

City/Location: Vienna

Organiser: Institute Integriert Studieren (Institute 'Integrated study' at the University of Linz)

EU: Online Forum - Transparency in EU standardization - 15 July 2010

Online Forum - Transparency in EU standardization

The discussion on a possible reform of the European standardization policy has heated up considerably during the recent months against the backdrop of the Digital Agenda and as the standardization reviews are discussed in the European Parliament. At the centre of this debate is the question of the European standardization framework's ability to foster innovation and competitiveness.

Important issues include the benefits of the European standardization system, its relevance in international standard setting, the role of global consortia, cooperation in important areas such as greenIT and eHealth, and participation of SMEs. One issue discussed in European policy circles is the need for reform to increase transparency, e.g. visibility of rules of procedure, work items and participants, as well as disclosure of patents and upfront information about licensing fees for implementation of technology.

This Open Forum at Talkstandards.com is devoted to this important debate. How should European standardization policy be reformed to enhance efficiency? Should transparency be a key priority or could other means more effectively improve the current European standardization system?

From **5 to 7 pm CET**, the authors of the Forum contributions will be [online](#). The website visitors are welcome to read and comment on the authors contributions.

Event email: niklas.lindblom@celec.eu

Event website: <http://www.talkstandards.com/transparency-in-eu-standardization/>

Country: Pan european

City/Location: Online event

Organiser: Talkstandards.com

GR: Eighth International Conference on Information Communication Technologies in Health - 15 - 17 July 2010

Eighth International Conference on Information Communication Technologies in Health (ICICTH Samos 2010)

8th ICICTH SAMOS 2010 take place under the auspices of Hellenic Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity. The event aims to facilitate the discussion on the effective use of ICT in the process of healthcare and to provide a forum for scientific debate and constructive interaction in a multi cultural social environment.

The conference will seek to address the many challenges and new directions presented by technological innovations in the Healthcare Sector. The detailed event programme may be found [here](#).

Keynote speakers of international recognition in the field of health informatics and health economics are expected to attend and all interested scientists with expertise in the theoretical and practical applications of technology in the healthcare sector are invited to participate. The event constitutes an opportunity not only for knowledge exchange but also for the initiation of fruitful collaborations between scientists, researchers, faculty, doctors and other hospital staff, experts in telematics as well as other professionals from all over the world concerned with the application of technology in the healthcare sector.

The scientific papers approved by the Scientific Program Committee of the ICICTH 2010 as suitable for oral presentations in plenary sessions will be published in full in the conference proceedings (ISSN and ISBN). Selected Papers will be published in the Journal 'Applied Clinical Informatics (ACI)'.

The registration form can be downloaded from <http://www.ineag.gr/ICICTH/index.php/registration.html>. It can be returned completed by email to icicth@ineag.gr under the title 'registration form ICICTH'.

Event email: icicth@ineag.gr

Event website: <http://www.ineag.gr/ICICTH/index.php>

Country: Greece

City/Location: Samos Island

Organiser: Research and Training Institute of the East Aegean (INEAG), Greece; National & Kapodistrian University of Athens - Faculty of Nursing, Greece; University for Health Sciences, Medical Informatics & Technology, Austria; Institute of Biomedical Engineering, Bogazici University, Turkey; and GHIA - Greek Health Informatics Association

GR: 1st Summer School on Biomedical and Health Informatics - 19 - 24 July 2010

1st Summer School on Biomedical and Health Informatics - BmHi 2010

The main objective of the event is to impel the scientific research and the broadening of thinking onto subjects of interest in the field of Health. The course is the first endeavour to develop and establish a high-level educational session where PhD candidates, academics and practitioners could meet. Well-known professors in the field of Health will share their expertise with the participants.

Exchanging of ideas, sharing experience of practice, enhancing the concepts of scientific research are few of the main orientations of the 1st Summer School on Biomedical and Health Informatics.

During the event several topics will be analysed by expertise professors, most of which are listed below:

- Electronic Health Records
- eHealth Information Management
- Artificial Intelligence in Medicine and Health Sciences
- Health Management Issues
- Health Care Information Systems
- Clinical Information Systems
- Medical Image Processing and Techniques
- Medical Expert Systems
- Bioinformatics and Biostatistics
- Telemedicine Software, Portals, Devices and Tele-health
- Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery in Medicine

- Applied Quantitative methods
- Medical Databanks, Databases and Knowledge Bases
- Neurocomputing in Medicine

Information about the registration fees and methods of payments can be found [online](#).

Event email: vkatsil@econ.uoa.gr

Event website: <http://www.ineag.gr/summerschool/index.php>

Country: Greece

City/Location: Samos

Organiser: National and Kapodistrian, University of Athens and the Research and Training Institute of the East Aegean (INEAG)

UK: Seminar on early diagnosis and prevention - saving costs, saving lives - 20 July 2010

Early diagnosis and prevention - saving costs, saving lives

The coalition programme for the UK government outlines the intention to investigate ways of improving access to preventative healthcare for those in disadvantaged areas as part of the strategy to tackle health inequalities.

This seminar will look at what more can be done to improve the early diagnosis and prevention of illness - focusing on the role of new technology in diagnosis and monitoring, on what more can be done to encourage research and innovation in healthcare, and the challenges faced in technology adoption.

Further sessions also examine the role of primary care in early diagnosis, including opportunities through increased access to diagnostic equipment in General Practitioner (GP)-led health centres and polyclinics, and how healthy living and prevention campaigns can be communicated more effectively to the general population, with reference to expected pressures on government social marketing budgets.

The detailed seminar programme may be found [here](#).

Registration can be performed [online](#).

Event email: delegate.relations@westminsterforumprojects.co.uk

Event website: <http://www.westminsterforumprojects.co.uk/forums/event.php?eid=134>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London

Organiser: Westminster Forum Projects

AT: EVOTE 2010 - 21 - 24 July 2010

EVOTE 2010 - The 4th International Conference on Electronic Voting 2010

This conference is the international meeting point for eVoting experts from all over the world to hold an interdisciplinary and open discussion of all the issues pertaining to electronic voting.

The aim of EVOTE 2010 is to bring together eVoting specialists working in academia, politics, government and industry in order to:

- Discuss all forms of electronic voting (including but not limited to polling station, kiosk or remote voting by electronic means);
- Formulate the interdisciplinary issues involved (technology, law, politics and society) in designing and implementing eVoting;
- Present new ways of solving the voting paradigm of unequivocal identification of the voter and full anonymity of the vote;
- Report on implementations, their legal, organisational and technical framework, the project experience made, and future plans;
- Analyse the interrelationship with and the effects of eVoting on, democratic institutions and processes as well as voter behaviour;

- Conduct a social and political analysis of the effects of electronic voting;
- Report on practical experience in implementing and conducting elections with electronic voting parts;
- Discuss security requirements and testing in accordance to international security standards i.e. Common Criteria or the Information Technology Security Evaluation Criteria (ITSEC);
- Evaluate eVoting and its effects.

The idea behind this conference is to discuss developments in this field through a 3-day event dealing with related topics from both a theoretical and a practical angle. The deadline for submission has passed; the event programme will be made available shortly on the event website.

Event email: 2010@e-voting.cc

Event website: <http://www.e-voting.cc/topics/conference2010>

Country: Austria

City/Location: Bregenz

Organiser: Competence Center for Electronic Voting and Participation

DE: IADIS Conference on e-Democracy, Equity and Social Justice 2010 - 26 - 28 July 2010

IADIS International Conference on e-Democracy, Equity and Social Justice 2010

This conference aims to encourage and foster efforts of researchers and practitioners by sharing cutting-edge research, innovations, models, theories and strategies that address issues and challenges related to cultivating online communities for grassroots democracy, equity and social justice.

Topics for this conference include, but are not limited to:

- Citizenship
- Digital divide
- Participation
- Access
- Community cultivation
- Sustainability
- E-mentoring
- Transference
- Community Ownership & Strengthening

More details about the topics to be discussed in the conference can be viewed [here](#).

The number of participants is expected to be over 100. Conference rates will be available [online](#) soon.

Event email: secretariat@edemocracy-conf.org

Event website: <http://www.edemocracy-conf.org/>

Country: Germany

City/Location: Freiburg

Organiser: International Association for Development of the Information Society (IADIS), co-organized by the Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg

GR: ICE-B 2010 - 26 - 28 July 2010

5th International Conference on eBusiness - ICE-B 2010

The 5th International Conference on e-Business, ICE-B 2010, aims at bringing together researchers and practitioners who are interested in e-Business technology and its current applications. The mentioned technology relates not only to more low-level technological issues, such as technology platforms and web services, but also to some higher-level issues, such as context awareness and enterprise models, and also the peculiarities of different possible applications of such technology. These are all areas of theoretical and practical importance within the

broad scope of e-Business, whose growing importance can be seen from the increasing interest of the IT research community.

The areas of the current conference are:

- e-Business applications;
- Enterprise engineering;
- Mobility;
- Business collaboration and e-Services;
- Technology platforms.

Authors are encouraged to make submissions (both research-driven and of a more practical nature) that reflect innovative results in the mentioned areas. The Call for Regular Papers Submissions has been extended until 26 February 2010. More details on Paper Submission and Important dates can be found [here](#).

ICE-B is part of [ICETE](#), the International Joint Conference on e-Business and Telecommunications. Registration to ICE-B allows free access to all other ICETE conferences.

Over 100 attendees are expected to take part. More information about registration to the event and amount of fees will be announced in the near future.

Event email: ice-b.secretariat@insticc.org

Event website: <http://www.ice-b.icete.org/>

Country: Greece

City/Location: Athens

Organiser: Institute for Systems and Technologies of Information, Control and Communication (INSTICC)

DE: IADIS e-Commerce 2010 Conference - 28 - 30 July 2010

IADIS International Conference e-Commerce 2010

The IADIS e-Commerce 2010 conference is a major international event for researchers, academics, industry specialists, practitioners and students interested in advances in, and applications of, eCommerce. The participants will have an opportunity to present and observe the latest research results and ideas in these areas. This conference aims to cover both technological and non-technological issues related to this new business paradigm.

'e-Commerce 2010' takes place in the context of the [IADIS Multi Conference on Computer Science and Information Systems 2010 \(MCCSIS\)](#).

The Conference invites proposals from the introductory through advanced level on all topics related to eCommerce. Proposals which address the theory, research and applications as well as describe innovative projects are encouraged. All papers submitted will be peer reviewed by at least two members of the International Program Committee.

The topics of the conference will include:

- Commerce Technology
- Global eCommerce
- Online Management
- Online Business Models
- Regulatory/Policy issues

Additional details on the topics can be found on the [event's website](#).

The interested parties who wish to submit papers can find details on submissions and all the important dates [here](#).

The conference is open to all following the payment of a fee. The organisers are expecting more than 100 participants. More information on registration and conference rates will be available in the near future.

Event email: secretariat@ecommerce-conf.org

Event website: <http://www.ecommerce-conf.org/>

Country: Germany

City/Location: Freiburg

Organiser: International Association for Development of the Information Society (IADIS) and the Albert-Ludwigs University of Freiburg

DE: IADIS International Conference e-Health 2010 - 29 - 31 July 2010

International Association for Development of the Information Society (IADIS): International Conference on e-Health 2010

This conference aims to draw together information systems, practitioners and management experts from all quadrants involved in developing computer technology to improve healthcare quality. The use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) in Healthcare Services is the main mechanism to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

Topics for this conference include, but are not limited to:

- Clinical Data Visualisation Standards
- Federated Electronic Health Records
- Personalized Medicine
- Health Informatics and Education
- Infrastructure and Architecture
- Internet and Medicine
- Interoperability issues
- IT and Patient Care
- e-Health Virtual Communities
- Business Process Management Systems
- e-Health Collaborative Strategies and Techniques
- e-Training
- Healthcare Management Dashboards
- Legal issues
- e-Health to improve Healthcare Quality and Patient Safety
- Healthcare Information Systems Regulatory issues
- Security in e-Health
- Data Mining and Clinical Studies
- Medical Guidelines
- e-Health Decision Support Systems
- Intelligent Medical Systems
- Patient Electronic Health Records
- Patients and Public Health
- Social Networks in Healthcare contexts
- e-Health Marketing
- e-Procurement and e-Commerce
- Telemedicine
- Web Based Applications
- e-Health 2.0

The number of participants is expected to be around 150. Conference rates will be available [online](#) soon.

Event email: secretariat@ehealth-conf.org

Event website: <http://www.ehealth-conf.org/>

Country: Germany

City/Location: Freiburg

Organiser: International Association for Development of the Information Society (IADIS), co-organized by the Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg

PE: AGSE 2010 - 3 - 6 August 2010

Applied Geoinformatics for Society and Environment (AGSE) 2010 - Third Summer School and Conference

The overall scope of the AGSE conferences & summer schools is to offer an interdisciplinary, international forum for sharing knowledge about the application of Geoinformatics with focus on application and on developing countries. The content is twofold and participative. There will be professional training and workshops about current topics in the fields of Geoinformatics and Photogrammetry as well as reports (presentations) from the participants about applications and developments in their countries.

The topics around which the event will revolve are the following:

- Environmental Issues, Sustainable Development
- Millennium Development Goals
- Photogrammetry, Earth Observation Systems, Information Extraction
- Spatial Data Infrastructures
- Internet based Applications
- LIDAR Data Analysis
- GIS and Education
- Geoinformatics and Health
- Neogeography and Geovisualisation
- GI Policy and Society, e-Government
- Open Source Solutions and Tools.

There is also a preliminary list of the planned Workshops in the context of the event:

- Geo-Mashups in the Web 2.0 environment
- Open Source GIS and Tools
- Workshop on "R" for geospatial Analysis-Geodata Integration
- Remote Sensing: Sensors - Data - Value Adding
- Workshop Process Management
- Adjustment computation and robust estimation
- XML Technologies in Geoinformatics.

Interested parties have four different options for participating in the conference: simple participation, reviewed paper and participation, oral presentation and poster presentation.

Details on the Call for Papers can be found [here](#).

Registration for this open event and fee details can be found [here](#). Over 100 attendees are expected.

Event email: conference@applied-geoinformatics.org

Event website: <http://www.applied-geoinformatics.org/>

Country: Central and South America

City/Location: Arequipa, Peru

Organiser: Applied Geoinformatics for Society and Environment (AGSE)

ePractice workshop: "Procurement of eHealth solutions" - 7 October 2010

This workshop is an initiative of the eHealth Procurers' community, supported by the European Commission. The Procurement of eHealth solutions workshop aims to share experiences and best practices on procuring eHealth services. National and regional cases will be presented and discussed in depth.

The main objectives of the workshop are to:

- Facilitate the exchange of best practices for deploying sustainable eHealth services procurement strategies and specifications.

- Promote the creation of synergies to increase quality & interoperability of deployed solutions as well as to launch innovative services.
- Support the sharing of technical knowledge and expertise needed to deploy complex eHealth procurement tools & services.

Within the context of this event, the EC aims to bring together high-caliber professionals, with extensive expertise and knowledge in the cross-section of the eHealth and Procurement fields.

Therefore, this workshop is open to practitioners from European national and regional administrations, public and private organisations, academia and research centres. This variety of strong and diverse stakeholders will provide differentiated contributions and points of view, thus assisting to foster generalized principles and approaches on addressing the subject of eHealth services procurement.

Possible subjects of interest include (but are not limited to):

- Legal aspects of procurement of eHealth services.
- Assessment and classification of procurement patterns in the healthcare sector.
- Procurement of eHealth services – technology state-of-art.
- Procurement of eHealth services – empirical best practices.
- European legislation on the procurement of eHealth services.
- IT platforms and technology standards for the procurement of eHealth services.
- Use Case 1 – NHS
- Use Case 2 - TBD

Registration to this workshop can be easily facilitated by visiting the following page: <http://www.epractice.eu/en/node/add/workshop-participate/305458>.

To be considered for a speaker placement, please submit your abstract to the event organisers at events@eurodyn.com. The event organiser will assist you promptly.

Thank you! We are looking forward to your contributions!

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: EUROPEAN DYNAMICS, SA

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